

September 10, 1997

VPCD-97-08 (LDV/LDT/SM/ICI/LIMO)

Dear Manufacturer:

SUBJECT: Fuel Economy Label Information for 1998 Model Year

Enclosure 1 provides a revised timetable for inclusions of label values in the 1998 model year Fuel Economy Guide. The revised timetable provides an additional two weeks from the timetable included in manufacturer guidance letter VPCD-97-06, dated June 20, 1997. The two week delay is needed to provide additional time to process data using EPA's new IOV-CFEIS computer data base.

Enclosure 2 provides some user tips for entering fuel economy data into the EPA data base.

In spite of the delayed schedule, some manufacturers are experiencing difficulties submitting full sets of data to the CFEIS database due to their internal database changes. Such manufacturers may request permission to submit data in an abbreviated format listing the description of the model type and the results of the fuel economy calculation only. Interested manufacturers should contact their certification team representative for permission and details of this abbreviated submission option.

If you have any questions, please contact your certification team representative.

Sincerely,

Jane Armstrong, Director  
Vehicle Programs and Compliance Division  
Office of Mobile Sources

Enclosures

cc: S. Perez, DOE

## ENCLOSURE 1

### Timetable

This enclosure is the revised timetable for including data in the 1998 Fuel Economy Guide and for the calculation and release of updated fuel economy ranges:

#### Fuel Economy Guide

| <u>Task</u>   | <u>Significant<br/>Dates</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Complete emission certification requirements for all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> .  | September 22                 | Manufacturer          |
| 2. Notify EPA of self-approval of all general label fuel economy values, for all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> .   | September 22                 | Manufacturer          |
| 3. Compile a list (for each manufacturer) of descriptions, fuel economy values, etc., of all model types to be included in the <u>Guide</u> and transmit to manufacturers for their review. | September 22                 | EPA                   |
| 4. Complete review of all information provided in "3" above and notify EPA of necessary corrections or concurrence.   | September 26                 | Manufacturer          |

#### Fuel Economy Ranges

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
| 1. Release to manufacturers the fuel economy ranges to be used on fuel economy labels. | October 3  | EPA          |
| 2. Ranges required to be included on labels as of this date.                           | October 19 | Manufacturer |

EPA will convey the necessary information to DOE on October 3, 1997.

## ENCLOSURE 2

Tips on handling General Label data processing problems.

1. GL/GR related problems:

Each GF record requires that it is linked to a GR and GL record and that they have at least one gear ratio and one RPM range entered regardless of whether GR and/or GL record applies to that configuration. Many manufacturers leave out GL or GR record if they do not apply to their vehicles as they did not have to enter the data in MTS if they did not apply.

At this time, the software does not allow any RPM or gear ratio fields to be left blank even though in most if not all cases lock-up RPMs would apply to higher numbered gears only. The work-around is to enter zeros in the lower gear numbers, i.e., First, Second, etc.

In short, when GL, GR records do not apply to a vehicle, manufacturers should enter one GL (with '1' in gear range number field and a '0.0' in Gear Ratio First field) and one GR (with '1' in lock-up range number field and a 0 in Lock-up RPM First field).

(Refer to the back page of the MTS data input form for General Label card 6 for information GL/GR records)

2. Warning message regarding Maximum Sale must have RLC (1:49). The program is applying incorrect criteria. Manufacturers should disregard the message. A correction will be made to the software to take the check out of the system.
3. Error message: "GL\_Calc\_Test 44 - (Harmonic average denominator equals zero.) APPLICATION ERROR (Cannot calculate subconfiguration FE.)"

Known causes are incorrect test number, incorrect configuration number on the GT records.

**I have found it easiest to generate a list of test numbers with engine family name, VID, configuration number for the manufacturer sorted by test number and check the GO records against it.**

4. Error message: "GL\_Replace\_G2 33 - (GL carline subconfiguration GBL\_ID, is lacking an RLC.) BLANK OR MISSING FIELD DATA FOR (GL\_TRANS\_GF)"

DVC/RLC combination which is entered in GO record does not exist in GF records.

5. Error message: "GL-Edit\_GT - (Each vehicle config must have at least one highway/city test.) CROSS DATA DEPENDANCY (Verify data in GO record)"

Either there is no highway/city test entered for a same vehicle configuration or the test number entered as highway/city test is an incorrect test number or the configuration number is incorrect.